

fleeting moments

Stephen Whelan is haunted by Bruno Aveillan's elusive meanings and unforgettable evocations of memory

"The recurring theme could very well be that of wandering, of traces, and, above all, of memory." So says French director/photographer Bruno Aveillan of his latest collection, *Diotopes*, which formed his first solo photographic exhibition last year in Paris. Rejecting the over-determined precision of digital photography, Aveillan shoots

direct to film in order to capture fragmented and emotionally-driven "mental panorama" deliberately devoid of prescribed meanings. The assorted images gathered in *Diotopes* eschew representation and illustration in favour of an abstraction that blends light and location into a seamless and uncertain whole. The effect

is fantastical and evocative; the images come to life as haunted moments that fleetingly pass by the viewer, departing as soon as they emerge. "Mnemonic acquisition, such as memories, are linked to their context and are therefore incredibly selective," embellishes Aveillan. "Information that lacks a certain affective ►